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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Our school division is informing parents and guardians that two staff members at Harrington Waddell Elementary School have tested positive for COVID-19. Several other division staff members are currently quarantined due to being identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case in the community. As we have been virtual since November 30th and have been on winter break, no staff or students have been identified as a close contact with these individuals.

Although there was no reportable exposure to students or staff in school, parents should continue to monitor their child's health and the health of their families for COVID-19 symptoms. CDC defines "close contact" as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period* starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated. A person simply being the same area is not considered exposed according to the health department, and therefore does not need to quarantine. Due to State and Federal privacy laws, LCS cannot identify or confirm the identity of individuals who test positive for COVID-19 or who are quarantined. Please remember to self-monitor and stay home if you have any COVID-like symptoms. Face coverings, maintaining appropriate physical distancing, and washing hands thoroughly and often continue to be the best practices for mitigating the virus. LCS is committed to providing information and will continue to provide as much information as possible to ensure health and safety of all stakeholders while also maintaining personal privacy regulations.

Please stay well.

Best,

Rebecca J. Walters
Division Superintendent